Dear Parent,

is a pre-service teacher enrolled in Northern Illinois University courses: Development of the Elementary School Child (EPS 304) and Educational Psychology (EPS 300). To fulfill course requirements, the NIU student needs to observe and interact with an elementary school-age child in a classroom setting. With your written consent, the student will observe your child for at least 30 minutes on several occasions in a natural situation and write notes about his/her behavior. The student may also ask your child to engage in several play-like activities and discussions. These activities pose no physical or emotional harm to children. Rather, there may well be benefits to your child due to the enjoyable nature of these activities. The NIU student will benefit in that it will increase his or her knowledge of child development and learning. The student will not use the teacher’s or child’s names, nor identify the teacher, parents, children or school in any notes, reports, or discussions.

The following are the terms of participation in this project:

1. Neither your real name nor your child’s real name will be used for observation notes or for written reports.

2. Your involvement and your child’s participation in this project are voluntary. You have the right to withdraw your child from the project at any time, for any reason. Any written records we had collected would then be destroyed.

Thank you for allowing this student to observe and interact with your child. If you have any questions or concerns about the NIU student’s role or the course requirements, please call or e-mail me at (815)753-8425 or jaschmidt@niu.edu.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Schmidt, Ph.D.

If you agree to the participation of your child in this project according to the preceding terms, please sign below:

Child’s Name ________________________________
Parent ________________________________ Date ____________
NIU Student ________________________________ Date ____________

Northern Illinois University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution.